

(Pub. L. 92-51, July 9, 1971, 85 Stat. 129; Pub. L. 92-607, ch. V, § 501, Oct. 31, 1972, 86 Stat. 1504.)

AMENDMENTS

1972—Pub. L. 92-607 substituted “United States Code Service” for “Federal Code Annotated” in two places.

§ 56. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-186, title II, § 203(20)(A), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1728

Section, based on H. Res. No. 418, § 2, Ninety-second Congress, May 18, 1971, enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 92-184, ch. IV, Dec. 15, 1971, 85 Stat. 636, related to office expenses within District of Columbia of Delegate from District of Columbia.

REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF HOUSE MEMBERS; MEMBER OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND MEM- BER DEFINED

Section 302(a), (b), and (d) of H. Res. No. 287, Ninety-fifth Congress, Mar. 2, 1977, enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 95-94, title I, § 115, Aug. 5, 1977, 91 Stat. 668, which related to reimbursement to Members of House of Representatives for official expenses incurred in the United States, was repealed by Pub. L. 104-186, title II, § 203(20)(B), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1728.

§ 57. Adjustment of House of Representatives allowances by Committee on House Oversight

(a) In general

Subject to the provision of law specified in subsection (b) of this section, the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives may, by order of the Committee, fix and adjust the amounts, terms, and conditions of, and other matters relating to, allowances of the House of Representatives within the following categories:

(1) For Members of the House of Representatives, the Members’ Representational Allowance, including all aspects of official mail within the jurisdiction of the Committee under section 59e of this title.

(2) For committees, the Speaker, the Majority and Minority Leaders, the Clerk, the Sergeant at Arms, and the Chief Administrative Officer, allowances for official mail (including all aspects of official mail within the jurisdiction of the Committee under section 59e of this title), stationery, and telephone and telegraph and other communications.

(b) Provision specified

The provision of law referred to in subsection (a) of this section is section 57a of this title.

(c) “Member of the House of Representatives” defined

As used in this section, the term “Member of the House of Representatives” means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

(Pub. L. 92-184, ch. IV, Dec. 15, 1971, 85 Stat. 636; Pub. L. 104-186, title I, § 102, Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1719; Pub. L. 106-57, title I, § 103(a)(4)(A), Sept. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 415.)

CODIFICATION

Section is based on House Resolution No. 457, Ninety-second Congress, July 21, 1971, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 92-184.

AMENDMENTS

1999—Subsec. (a)(1), (2). Pub. L. 106-57 substituted “all aspects of official mail” for “all aspects of the Official Mail Allowance”.

1996—Pub. L. 104-186 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section consisted of subsecs. (a) and (b) authorizing Committee on House Administration to adjust certain allowances for Members, committees, and officers of House of Representatives.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on House Oversight of House of Representatives changed to Committee on House Administration of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Sixth Congress, Jan. 6, 1999.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1999 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-57, title I, § 103(c), Sept. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 416, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 59e and 92 of this title] shall apply with respect to the first session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress and each succeeding session of Congress.”

CLERK HIRE ALLOWANCE; INCREASE

Pub. L. 101-520, title I, § 104, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2262, effective for 102d Congress, increased authorization for the Clerk Hire Allowance by \$50,000.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 1 (REVISED)¹

Resolved, that effective January 25, 1972, each Member of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to office space suitable for his use in the district he represents at such places designated by him in such district. The Sergeant at Arms shall secure office space satisfactory to the Member in post offices or Federal buildings at not more than two (2) locations if such space is available. Office space to which a Member is entitled under this resolution which is not secured by the Sergeant at Arms may be secured by the Member, and the Clerk shall approve for payment from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives vouchers covering bona fide statements of amounts due for office space not exceeding a total allowance to each Member of \$200 per month; but if a Member certifies to the Committee on House Administration that he is unable to obtain suitable space in his district for \$200 per month due to high rental rates or other factors, the Committee on House Administration may, as the Committee considers appropriate, direct the Clerk to approve for payment from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives vouchers covering bona fide statements of amounts due for suitable office space not exceeding a total allowance to each Member of \$350 per month. Members shall be entitled to have no more than three (3) district offices outfitted with office equipment, carpeting, and draperies at the expense of the General Services Administration.

As used in this resolution the term “Member” means any Member of the House of Representatives, the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico, and the Delegate of the District of Columbia.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 2 (REVISED)

Resolved, that effective January 3, 1973, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration:

(a) The contingent fund of the House of Representatives is made available for reimbursement of transportation expenses incurred by Members (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico) in traveling on official business, by the nearest usual route, between Washington, District of Columbia, and any point in the district which he represents, for not more than 36 round trips during each Congress, such reimbursement to be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.

(b) The contingent fund of the House of Representatives is made available for reimbursement of transpor-

¹ Rescinded. See Committee Order No. 12.

tation expenses incurred by employees in the office of a Member (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico) for not more than 6 round trips during any Congress between Washington, District of Columbia and any point in the Congressional district represented by the Member. Such payment shall be made only upon vouchers approved by the Member, containing a certification by him that such travel was performed on official duty. The Committee on House Administration shall make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(c) A Member of the House of Representatives (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico) may elect to receive in any Congress, in lieu of reimbursement of transportation expenses for such Congress is authorized in paragraph (a) above, a lump sum transportation payment of \$2,250 for each Congress. The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(d) This order shall not affect any allowance for travel of Members of the House of Representatives (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico) which is authorized to be paid from funds other than the contingent fund of the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 3

Resolved, that effective March 1, 1972, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member of the House of Representatives, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, and the Delegate from the District of Columbia shall be entitled to an annual clerk hire allowance of \$157,092 for not to exceed 16 clerks. There shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House of Representatives such sums as may be necessary to carry out this order until otherwise provided by law.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 4

Resolved, that effective January 3, 1973, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration; the allowance for stationery for each Member of the House of Representatives, Delegates, and Resident Commissioner shall be \$4,250 per regular session.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 5

Resolved, that effective May 1, 1973, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration upon written request to the Committee on House Administration, a Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, or a Delegate to the House of Representatives may employ in lieu of 1 of the 16 clerks allowed under his clerk hire allowance, a research assistant at such salary as the Member may designate. The Member's annual clerk hire allowance will then be increased at the rate of \$20,000.

There shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House of Representatives such sums as may be necessary to carry out this order until otherwise provided by law.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 6

Resolved, that effective May 1, 1973, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, upon written request to the Committee on House Administration, a Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico or a Delegate to the House of Representatives may allocate up to \$250 a month of any unused portion of his clerk hire allowance for the leasing of equipment necessary for the conduct of his office.

There shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House of Representatives such sums as may be necessary to carry out this order until otherwise provided by law.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 7

Resolved, that effective October 1, 1973, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration

the quarterly allowance for official telephone service outside the District of Columbia for Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico is increased from \$450 quarterly to \$600 quarterly.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 8

Resolved, that effective October 1, 1973, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration the quarterly allowance for official office expenses incurred outside the District of Columbia by Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico has been increased from \$300 quarterly to \$500 quarterly.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 9

Resolved, that effective October 1, 1973, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration the number of units provided for official telephone calls, telegrams, cablegrams, and radiograms made or sent by on or behalf of a Member, Delegate, or the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico has been increased from 80,000 units to 100,000 units for each regular session of Congress. Such units shall accumulate and be available for use until the aggregate number of such units in the close of each session is not more than 200,000. Unused units in excess of 200,000 at the close of session may not be carried forward for use in a succeeding session.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 10

Resolved, that until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, there shall be paid from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives to each Member, Resident Commissioner, or Delegate to the House of Representatives an additional allowance of \$1,000 for stationery. Such payment shall be effective each session beginning with the 2nd Session of the 93d Congress.

Effective date: 2d Session of the 93d Congress.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 11

Resolved, that effective January 1, 1974, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, one word of a telegram, cablegram, or radiogram, shall be charged as two (2) units, except that one word of a night letter shall be charged as one (1) unit. In addition, twelve (12) units shall be charged for physical delivery of any telegram, cablegram, or radiogram, by the Telegraph Company.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 12

Resolved, that effective March 1, 1974, each Member of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to office space suitable for his use in the district he represents at such places designated by him in such district. The Sergeant at Arms shall secure office space satisfactory to the Member in post offices or Federal buildings at not more than three (3) locations if such space is available. Office space to which a Member is entitled under this resolution which is not secured by the Sergeant At Arms may be secured by the Member, and the Clerk shall approve for payment from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives vouchers covering bona fide statements of amounts due for office space not exceeding a total allowance to each Member of \$200 per month; but if a Member certifies to the Committee on House Administration that he is unable to obtain suitable space in his district for \$200 per month due to high rental rates or other factors, the Committee on House Administration may, as the Committee considers appropriate, direct the Clerk to approve for payment from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives vouchers covering bona fide statements of amounts due for suitable office space not exceeding a total allowance to each Member of \$500 per month. In the event suitable office space is not available in post offices or other Federal buildings and the Member certifies to the Committee on House Administration

tration that he is unable to obtain suitable private space in his district for \$500.00 per month due to high rental rates or other factors, the Committee on House Administration may direct the Clerk to approve for payment from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives vouchers covering bona fide statements of amounts due for suitable office space not exceeding approximately 1,500 square feet at rates not to exceed the highest applicable rate charged to Federal agencies in the district established by regulations issued by the Administrator of General Services pursuant to Section 210(j) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (40 U.S.C. 490(j)) [now 40 U.S.C. 586(a), (b)]. Members shall be entitled to have no more than three (3) district offices outfitted with office equipment, carpeting, and draperies at the expense of the General Services Administration.

As used in this resolution the term "Member" means any Member of the House of Representatives, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, and the Delegates from the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

Committee Order No. 12 rescinds the provisions of Committee Order No. 1 revised.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 13

Resolved, that in addition to postage stamps authorized to be furnished under any other provision of law, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall for each regular session of Congress procure and furnish United States postage stamps to each Representative, the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico, and the Delegates from the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands in an amount not exceeding \$230, and to each standing committee of the House of Representatives upon request of the chairman thereof, in an amount not exceeding \$140. In addition to postage stamps authorized under any other provision of law, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, the Speaker, the majority and minority leaders, and the majority and minority whips of the House of Representatives shall each be allowed United States postage stamps in an amount not exceeding \$205.

Effective date: August 20, 1974.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 14

Resolved, that until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration; the allowance for Stationery for each Member of the House of Representatives, Delegate, and Resident Commissioner, shall be \$6,500 per regular session. Such payment shall be made to each Member, Delegate, and the Resident Commissioner serving as such on or after the date of adoption of this resolution.

Effective date: August 20, 1974.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 15

Resolved, the Clerk of the House is authorized and directed to pay each Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, and the Delegates to the House of Representatives from the contingent fund of the House the amount of \$500 quarterly upon the certification of each such Member, Resident Commissioner and Delegate for official expenses incurred outside the District of Columbia; effective with the beginning of the 94th Congress.

Effective date: December 18, 1974.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 16

Resolved, that effective this date, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, and the Delegate from the District of Columbia to the House of Representatives shall be entitled to an annual clerk hire allowance for the employment of not to exceed 18 clerks, and the Delegates from Guam and the Virgin Islands to the House of Rep-

resentatives shall be entitled to an annual clerk hire allowance for the employment of not to exceed 11 clerks.

Effective date: March 6, 1975.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 17

Resolved, that effective March 1, 1975, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, upon written request to the Committee on House Administration, a Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico or a Delegate to the House of Representatives may allocate an amount not to exceed \$250 a month of any unused portion of his or her clerk hire allowance for the leasing of equipment necessary for the conduct of his or her office or for the leasing of computer and related services in connection with his or her official duties.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 18

Resolved, that effective this date, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico or a Delegate to the House of Representatives is authorized a \$650 per month allowance to lease office equipment, and upon written request to the Committee on House Administration, a Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico or a Delegate to the House of Representatives may allocate an amount not to exceed \$250 a month of any unused portion of his or her clerk hire allowance for the leasing of equipment necessary for the conduct of his or her office or for the leasing of computer and related services in connection with his or her official duties. The said monthly allowances are not cumulative.

Effective date: April 23, 1975.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 19

Resolved, that effective this date [June 2, 1975], until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration:

(a) The contingent fund of the House of Representatives is made available for reimbursement of transportation expenses incurred by Members (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, the Delegates from the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Guam) in traveling, on official business, by the nearest usual route, between Washington, District of Columbia, and any point in the district which he represents, for not more than 26-round trips during each session of Congress (at the discretion of the Member, Resident Commissioner and Delegates no more than 6 of the 26-round trips may be allocated to the employees of their offices, such reimbursement to be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.

(b) The contingent fund of the House of Representatives is made available for reimbursement of transportation expenses incurred by employees in the office of a Member (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, the Delegates from the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Guam) in traveling, on official business, by the nearest usual route, between Washington, District of Columbia, and any point in the Congressional district represented by the Member, for not more than 6-round trips during each session of Congress. Such payment shall be made only upon the receipt of a voucher approved by the Member, containing a certification by him stating that such travel was performed on official business. The Committee on House Administration shall make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(c) A Member of the House of Representatives (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, the Delegates from the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Guam) may elect to receive in each session of Congress, in lieu of reimbursement of transportation expenses for each session of Congress as authorized in paragraph (a) above, a lump sum transportation pay-

ment of \$2,250 for each session of Congress. The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(d) This order shall not affect any allowance for travel of Members of the House of Representatives (including the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, the Delegates from the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Guam) which is authorized to be paid from funds other than the contingent fund of the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 20

Resolved, that effective June 1, 1975, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member of the House of Representatives, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, and the Delegates from the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Guam shall be entitled to an additional annual clerk hire allowance of \$22,500. There shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House of Representatives such sums as may be necessary to carry out this order until otherwise provided by law.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 21

Resolved, that effective June 1, 1975, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member of the House of Representatives, Delegate and Resident Commissioner shall be entitled to a constituent communication's allowance equivalent to the fair market value of the printing and production costs of two standard 11 x 17 inch Congressional district-wide constituent reports per annum for use in production and printing of newsletters, questionnaires or similar correspondence eligible to be mailed under the frank. The Committee on House Administration shall make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to establish the fair market value of the cost of printing and production of two standard 11 x 17 inch Congressional district-wide constituent report. There shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House of Representatives such sums as may be necessary until otherwise provided by law.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 22

Resolved, that effective for the 94th Congress, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration, that in addition to the basic installation and service charges not to exceed the cost of three telephone lines at each of three district offices, the number of units provided for official telephone calls, telegrams, cablegrams, and radiograms made or sent by on or behalf of a Member, Delegate, or the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico is hereby changed to an overall allowance of 125,000 units for each regular session of Congress. These units shall be transferable among the Washington, D.C. and district offices. In addition, payment for the use of a WATS line is authorized, but the charges for such WATS line shall be calculated and deducted at a rate of 11 cents per unit. Such units shall accumulate and be available for use until the aggregate number of such units at the close of each session or Congress is not more than 250,000. Unused units in excess of 250,000 at the close of a session may not be carried forward for use in a succeeding session or Congress.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 23

Resolved, that effective this date [July 29, 1975], until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico or a Delegate to the House of Representatives is authorized upon written request to the Committee on House Administration, to allocate an amount not to exceed \$1000 a month of any unused portion of his or her clerk hire allowance for the leasing of computer and related services in connection with his or her official duties. The said monthly allowance is not cumulative.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 24

Resolved, that effective October 1, 1975, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico or a Delegate to the House of Representatives is authorized a \$750.00 per month allowance to lease office equipment, and upon written request to the Committee on House Administration, a Member, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico or a Delegate to the House of Representatives may allocate an amount not to exceed \$250.00 a month of any unused portion of his or her clerk hire allowance for the leasing of equipment necessary for the conduct of his or her office in connection with his or her official duties. The said monthly allowances are not cumulative.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 25

Resolved, that effective immediately prior to noon on January 3, 1977, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, the allowance for airmail and special delivery stamps authorized by 2 U.S.C. 42c and 42d shall be reduced from its existing level to one dollar per session.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 26

Resolved, that effective immediately prior to noon, January 3, 1977, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to annual clerk-hire allowance of \$238,584.00 for not to exceed 18 clerks. The amount of this allowance may be adjusted by the Committee on House Administration subsequent to the adoption of this order to reflect any adjustment to federal salary levels that occur under the Federal Pay Comparability Act of 1971.

The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution.

"Member" means each Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 27

Resolved, that effective September 1, 1976, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, reimbursements to Members for authorized expenditures shall be made only as prescribed by regulations of, and on forms issued by the Committee on House Administration.

"Member" means each Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 28

Resolved, that effective immediately prior to noon on January 3, 1977, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration, if a Member elects to utilize WATS or similar service in his or her office in the District of Columbia, the Telecommunications Allowance shall be reduced by one-half. The Committee on House Administration shall promulgate regulations to implement this order and ensure adequate telecommunications service for Members representing districts where WATS or similar service is not available.

"Member" means each Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 29

Resolved, that effective immediately prior to noon on January 3, 1977, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration, a Member may at any time during a session of Congress:

1—Receive in lieu of transportation authorized under 2 U.S.C. 43b a lump sum payment not to exceed \$1.00 per session.

2—Withdraw a sum not to exceed \$1.00 per session from his or her stationery account.

3—Receive under the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 122a an amount not to exceed \$1.00 per session for official expenses outside the District of Columbia unless such Member submits an itemization of the expenses for which such Member seeks reimbursement.

The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution.

“Member” means each Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 30

Resolved, that effective immediately prior to noon on January 3, 1977, until otherwise provided by Order of the Committee on House Administration, Members may elect to transfer the authorization to expend funds among the following allowances.

1. Constituent Communication Allowance.
2. Official Expenses Outside the District of Columbia Allowance.
3. Stationery Allowance.
4. Equipment Lease Allowance.
5. Travel Allowance for Members and Designated Employees. The maximum amount transferable will be limited to an amount computed as follows:
64 times the rate per mile between the District of Columbia and the furthest point in the Member's District, according to the Rand McNally Standard Highway Mileage Guide. In no case shall this amount be less than \$2,250. The following rates per mile apply:

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| Under 500 miles | \$.15/mile |
| At least 500 but under 750 miles | .14/mile |
| At least 750 but under 1000 miles | .13/mile |
| At least 1000 but under 1750 miles | .12/mile |
| At least 1750 but under 2250 miles | .11/mile |
| At least 2250 but under 2500 miles | .10/mile |
| At least 2500 but under 3000 miles | .09/mile |
| 3000 miles or over | .08/mile |

6. Telephone and Telegraph Allowance. The maximum amount transferable will be limited to an amount computed as follows:

15,000 minutes times the highest long-distance telephone rate from the District of Columbia to the Member's District.

If the Member has elected to utilize WATS or similar service in his or her office in the District of Columbia, the amount will be reduced by one-half.

7. District Office Rental Allowance. The maximum amount transferable will be computed as follows:

1500 times the highest allowable GSA rental cost per square foot for office space in the Member's District.

Additionally, a Member may transfer a maximum of \$12,000 per regular session of Congress for computer and related services and a maximum of \$3,000 per regular session of Congress for Office Equipment leasing for his or her clerk-hire allowance.

All transfers made under this order shall be among the several above-stated categories and for the necessary and official expenses incurred by the Member in the conduct of his or her duties as a Member of the House of Representatives.

In the event the House precludes the use of the contingent fund of the House for implementation of this committee order, the status quo anti shall be restored as respects the individual accounts and allowances heretofore established by committee order or regulation prior to the adoption of this committee order.

The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution.

“Member” means each Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 31

Resolved, that effective April 1, 1977, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member, Delegate or Resident Commissioner of the House of Representatives may compensate employees from the clerk-hire allowance at a per annum rate equivalent to, and not to exceed, the highest per annum rate of basic pay, as in effect from time to time, authorized for Level V of the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5316).

TO ACCOMPANY COMMITTEE ORDER No. 31

This order will tie the maximum annual rate of compensation which may be paid from the clerk-hire allowance to the Executive Schedule, and will reestablish the previously existing parity between the maximum which may be paid a committee employee, and the maximum which may be paid a clerk-hire employee.

The Order raises the ceiling from its present level of \$39,600 to \$47,500, which corresponds to a Level V position, but provides no additional funds to the clerk-hire allowance. If a Member desires to raise an employee's salary, it must be done from the existing allowance.

This action is clearly within the Committee's authority under 2 U.S.C. 57 as modified by H.Res. 1372 (P.L. 94-440) [2 U.S.C. 57a], because it sets a “term or condition” of an allowance, and does not fix or adjust the amount of an allowance, which action would require a vote on the House floor.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 32

Resolved, That effective October 1, 1977, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, reimbursement for travel by members and employees by privately owned conveyance shall be at the rate of 17 cents per mile for automobile, 15 cents per mile for motorcycle, 36 cents per mile for aircraft, and that such reimbursement shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 33

Resolved, That effective May 1, 1981, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, the Allowance for Official Expenses and the Inventory Allowance for District Office Equipment and Furnishings are adjusted as follows:

1. The base allowance for Official expenses is increased to \$47,300.

2. The Travel Allowance is increased to a base of \$4,950, and the multiplier in the formula used to compute the variable for travel is increased to a range of 18 to 30 cents.

3. The Inventory Allowance for District Office Equipment and Furnishing is increased to \$35,000.

Expenditures of these funds shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 34

Resolved, that effective January 3, 1983, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, the Allowance for Official Expenses is as follows:

1. The base allowance for Official Expenses is increased to \$52,000.

2. The Travel Allowance is increased to a minimum of \$5,700, and the multiplier in the formula used to compute the variable for travel is increased to a range of 21 to 35 cents.

Expenditures of these funds shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER No. 35

Resolved, That effective May 1, 1983, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, the Clerk-Hire Allowance and the Official Expenses Allowance are adjusted as follows:

1. The base allowance for Official Expenses is increased by \$15,000.

2. Each session a Member may allocate not to exceed \$30,000 from the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance which may be used to supplement the Official Expenses Allowance, and may allocate not to exceed \$30,000 from the Official Expenses Allowance to supplement the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance, provided however that monthly Clerk-Hire disbursements may not exceed 10 percent of the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance.

All disbursements and allocations shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 36

Resolved, That effective January 3, 1984, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, the Allowance for Official Expenses is adjusted as follows:

(1) The Travel Allowance is increased to reflect a cost per mile variable ranging from \$.23 to \$.39, with a minimum of \$6,200.

Expenditures of these funds shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 37

Resolved, That effective October 1, 1985, until otherwise provided by order of the Committee on House Administration, each Member is entitled to three FTS lines for use in district office(s) without charge to the official expenses allowance.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 38

Resolved, That effective August 1, 1985, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, the Clerk-Hire Allowance and the Official Expenses Allowance are adjusted as follows:

Each session a member may allocate not to exceed \$40,000 from the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance which may be used to supplement the Official Expenses Allowance, and may allocate not to exceed \$40,000 from the Official Expenses Allowance to supplement the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance, provided however that monthly Clerk-Hire disbursements may not exceed 10% of the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance.

All disbursements and allocations shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 39

Resolved, that effective March 15, 1990, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, the Clerk-Hire Allowance and the Official Expenses Allowance are adjusted as follows:

Each session a Member may allocate not to exceed \$50,000 from the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance which may be used to supplement the Official Expenses Allowance, and may allocate not to exceed \$50,000 from the Official Expenses Allowance to supplement the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance, provided however that monthly Clerk-Hire disbursements may not exceed 10% of the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance.

All disbursements and allocations shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 40

Resolved, That effective May 8, 1991, until otherwise provided by the Committee on House Administration, the Clerk-Hire Allowance and the Official Expenses Allowance are adjusted as follows: Each session a Member may allocate not to exceed \$75,000 from the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance which may be used to supplement the Official Expenses Allowance, and may allocate not to exceed \$75,000 from the Official Expenses Allowance to supplement the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance, provided however that monthly Clerk Hire disbursements may

not exceed 10 percent of the basic Clerk-Hire Allowance.

All disbursements and allocations shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Committee on House Administration.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 41

Resolved, That (a) effective September 1, 1995, and subject to subsection (b), the Clerk Hire Allowance, the Official Expenses Allowance, and the Official Mail Allowance shall cease to exist and the functions formerly carried out under such allowances shall be carried out under a single allowance, to be known as the "Members' Representational Allowance".

(b) Under the Members' Representational Allowance, the amount that shall be available to a Member for franked mail with respect to a session of Congress shall be the amount allocated for that purpose by the Committee on House Oversight under paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(B) of subsection (e) of section 311 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1991 [2 U.S.C. 59e(e)(1)(A), (2)(B)], plus an amount equal to the amount permitted to be transferred to the former Official Mail Allowance under paragraph (3) of that subsection.

SEC. 2. The Committee on House Oversight shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this resolution.

COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 42

Resolved, that pursuant to 2 U.S.C. §57 and 2 U.S.C. §59e, the Committee hereby orders that:

Sec. 1 Effective January 3, 1999 the amount available within the Members' Representational Allowance for franked mail with respect to a session of Congress shall not be limited by subsection (b) of Committee Order No. 41.

Sec. 2 The Committee on House Oversight shall have the authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this resolution.

§57a. Limitation on allowance authority of Committee on House Oversight

(a) In general

An order under the provision of law specified in subsection (c) of this section may fix or adjust the allowances of the House of Representatives only by reason of—

- (1) a change in the price of materials, services, or office space;
- (2) a technological change or other improvement in office equipment; or
- (3) an increase under section 5303 of title 5 in rates of pay under the General Schedule.

(b) Resolution requirement

In the case of reasons other than the reasons specified in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a) of this section, the fixing and adjustment of the allowances of the House of Representatives in the categories described in the provision of law specified in subsection (c) of this section may be carried out only by resolution of the House of Representatives.

(c) Provision specified

The provision of law referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of this section is section 57 of this title.

(Pub. L. 94-440, title II, §101, Oct. 1, 1976, 90 Stat. 1448; Pub. L. 104-186, title I, §103, Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1720.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The General Schedule, referred to in subsec. (a)(3), is set out under section 5332 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.